(*g*) Are the Government aware that the computing work done in the Press, even after the passing of the Government order, is not in accordance with the rules laid down in the Government order which clearly says that the vouchers should be valued by the computors and the account books initialled by the compositors?

(*h*) Are the Government aware of the fact that the piece-work compositors of the Government Press feel serious hardships and incur heavy loss owing to the absence of any definite principle or rule by which hour-account is charged on jobs?

(*i*) In view of the existence of the disparity between the two sets of compositors recruited before and after 1090 and in view of the similar work done by both, do the Government think it right to grant the minimum monthly allowance to one set only?

(*j*) Is it a fact that the Press Committee have said that there is not sufficient work to keep all the piece-work employees of the Press fully engaged throughout the year, and, if so, what steps have the Government taken to dispense with the temporary staff?

(*k*) In view of the fact that the Government have clearly stated in the Government order that the piece-work employees recruited before 1090 should be supplied with enough matter regularly, do they not think that the interests of those recruited after 1090 should also be similarly safeguarded?

(*l*) In the absence of enough work for all the piece-work employees of the Press uniformly throughout the year, have the Government proposed any remedy to compensate for the time wasted in the Press for no fault of theirs?

(*m*) Will the Government be pleased to appoint the Work Committee, contemplated in the Government order, in the near future?

**MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY** (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) to (*m*) The member is referred to the answers to question No. 72.

*Grievances of the Piece-Workers in the Government Press.*

74. **MR. A. K. PILLAI** (*Karunagapalli*): (1) Will the Government be pleased to state if they have received memorials from the piece-work compositors of the Government Press complaining of the distinction drawn between those recruited before 1090 and those recruited after that date? What action have the Government taken on them?

(2) Are the Government aware that these two classes of employees doing the same kind of work are receiving widely different treatment in regard to the conditions of their pay and leave?

(3) Are the Government aware of the serious hardship the piece-workers of the Government Press feel owing to the absence of any definite principle or system by which hour-account is charged on jobs?

**MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY** (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): (1) The member is referred to the answer to question No. 72 (*c*).

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. K. Narayanan Pandalay.]

(2) The member is referred to the answer to question No. 72 (*i*).

(3) The member is referred to the answer to question No. 72 (*h*).

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): I have referred to the answers 72 (*c*), (*i*), and (*h*). May I know if the Government have received any memorials after the sittings of the Press Committee were over?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): The answer is: "The complaints and memorials were referred to the Press Committee and the recommendations made by them have in the main been accepted." I want to know whether any memorials were received after the sittings of the Press Committee.

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): What is the answer in reference to that.

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): They are under consideration with the recommendations of the Press Superintendent.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): In respect of the hardships, Government say that they are not aware of them. Does the member mean that the Government are not aware of the hardships, or that there are no hardships at all?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): The answer means that the Government are not aware that there are real hardships. For, Government have duly considered the memorials and the proposals of the Superintendent and they have passed orders on the report of the Press Committee. Naturally, therefore, Government are not aware that there are real hardships.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): So Government think that the hardships complained of in the memorials are not real?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): Government have not considered them and therefore they are not in a position now to say whether the alleged hardships are real or not.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): May I know what the different conditions are under which the two sets of men were recruited? In the answer, it is said that they were recruited under totally different conditions. What are the totally different conditions?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): That is to say, people entertained before 1090 were permanently salaried men and the people entertained after 1090 entered service on the

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

distinct understanding that they would not be permanent men and that they would not be entitled to the concessions allowed to the permanent compositors.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Is it the intention of the Government or is it not the intention of the Government to fill up permanent vacancies that would arise in the future from the people recruited after 1090?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): That is not the intention as would be seen from the G. O.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Have the Government made themselves sure that the Government order in this behalf is being observed by the authorities?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes. That is what the Government think. The contrary has not been made to appear to the Government.

*Stock-taking in the Government Press.*

75. MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): (*a*) Have the Government deputed a Superintendent of the Account Office to take stock of the plant etc., of the Government Press?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether, in view of the highly technical nature of the institution, he is thoroughly competent to do his work without the aid of a technically qualified hand conversant with such work?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The work is only stock-taking, which the officer deputed is competent to do without any special aid.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know whether the stock-taking can be done by a man who has no technical knowledge whatever?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes. He is an officer deputed from the Account Office. He is entrusted with the work of inspecting the plant and machinery and seeing whether they correspond to the stock.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Why should there be a special stock-taking officer? Cannot that work be done by the O. A. D.?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): The gentleman deputed belongs to the Account Office.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): But I want to know whether that work cannot be done by the O. A. D?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes. That was the idea of the Government. When Government appointed him, they considered this and they thought that the ordinary work of the O. A. D. would suffer much if it was asked to do this work also.



LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly